

66th MEETING
OF THE
MARYLAND HEALTH CARE COMMISSION

Via Teleconference

Tuesday, January 11, 2005

Amended Minutes

Chairman Salamon called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Commissioners present: Crofoot, Ginsburg, Lucht, Moffit, Nicolay, Pollak, Risher, and Row

ITEM 1.

FINAL ACTION: *Study of the Affordability of Health Insurance in Maryland (Required Under SB 131/HB 845)*

Chairman Salamon said that the first item on the agenda was consideration of the report and that the Commissioners had received copies of the most recent version of the report by Federal Express. Pamela W. Barclay, Interim Executive Director, informed the Commissioners that Alfred Redmer, Jr., the Insurance Commissioner, requested that the Commission extend the deadline for comments from the Maryland Insurance Administration on their section of the report to the end of the week. She asked Enrique Martinez-Vidal, Deputy Director of Performance and Benefits, to summarize modifications to the report that were made at the Commissioners' request. Following discussion of the modifications, Commissioner Constance Row made a motion that the Commissioners approve release of the report, which was seconded by Commissioner Robert E. Nicolay, and unanimously approved.

FINAL ACTION: *Study of the Affordability of Health Insurance in Maryland (Required Under SB 131/HB 845)* is hereby **APPROVED**.

ITEM 2.

FINAL ACTION: *Annual Mandated Health Insurance Services Evaluation*

Chairman Salamon asked Bruce Kangisser of Mercer Human Resource Consulting, the Commission's consulting actuary, to summarize modifications made to the report following the discussion held at the December 16, 2004 meeting of the Commission. Commissioner Robert Moffit requested that a clarification be added regarding marginal cost estimates in the small group market, Commissioner Debra Herring Risher concurred with Commissioner Moffit's opinion, as did the Chairman. Following further discussion, Commissioner Row made a motion that the Commission approve the report, as modified, which was seconded by Commissioner Risher, and unanimously approved.

FINAL ACTION: *the Annual Mandated Health Insurance Services Evaluation report is hereby APPROVED.*

ITEM 3.

Hearing and Meeting Schedule

Chairman Salamon announced that the next meeting of the Commission would be on Thursday, January 27, 2005 at 4160 Patterson Avenue, Room 100, in Baltimore, Maryland at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Ernest Crofoot expressed discomfort with holding Commission meetings via teleconference. Commissioner Crofoot said that he was concerned that the Commission is not fulfilling its mission in this manner and requested that his objection be noted in the Minutes of the meeting. Chairman Salamon commented that although meetings had been held via teleconference, they were, in fact, public meetings of the Commission. Furthermore, the teleconference meetings had been publicized on the Commission's Hearing and Meeting Schedule and on the Commission's website.

ITEM 4.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m. upon motion of Commissioner Crofoot, which was seconded by Commissioner Row, and unanimously approved by the Commissioners.